

From my professional view point, as both a computer scientist and RF engineer, broadband over powerlines is a bad idea for everyone. I'm sure you've received and read plenty of comments regarding interference from the BPL transmissions to ham radio enthusiasts, government radio communications, and commercial and broadcast radio. All of which I consider valid. One should also consider radio wave 'pollution'. Pollution of radio waves is used here analogous to light pollution with reference toward astronomy. Amateur astronomers, especially in cities, can not view the heavens adequately from their own back yards at night because of too much 'light pollution'. Therefore they must seek refuge in the interior, more rural parts of the country. Similarly, many things we use and take for granted everyday will be effected by radio wave pollution from BPL. Your garage door opener may not work until you are within a very few feet of the door, your RC hobby planes and cars will go out of your range of control much sooner. Radio astronomy, ship to shore, portable AM/FM radios, and a veritable host of other things one could list, will all have their function or efficiency degraded to varying degrees. Unlike light, however, there will be no refuge from the interfering BPL. Unlike the shorter wave frequencies of light, the longer waves of radio bounce off the ionosphere and return to earth, and bounce again, and return again, and so on until they have circled the globe perhaps. A very serious situation indeed. No quantity of BPL "studies" will change the physics of radio wave propagation. Anyone knowledgeable with RF or radio waves can take a look at the BPL frequencies, proposed rf output powers, and all mitigating variables and come to swift conclusion. There will be interference, easily harmful to a large cross section of current spectrum users. It does not require extensive mathematical calculations and time consuming tests. Just listen to the experts in the field, i.e. broadcast radio engineers, experienced short wave radio operators, ham radio enthusiasts who operate QRP (low power), etc. Do NOT listen to the big money interests if you want to do some good for the country, its people, and yourself.

Sincerely,

Jimmy D. Burrell